



Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

February, 1983

Volume 28, No. 2

MEETING

Foggy Bottom Association

Tuesday, March 1

St. Paul's Parish House

2430 K Street, N.W.

7:30 p.m.

All Are Welcome

February's Guest Speaker Ward Two Planner Art Duncan

Once you understand that all FBA meetings are held on the last Monday of the month at 8:00 PM at St. Paul's Church, then you'll be sure to remember that this month's meeting will be held on March 1, Tuesday at 7:30. Thank goodness it will still be at St. Paul's!

The reason for the change is simple. On Monday evening the 28th, the Zoning Commission will hear the proposed development at 26th and K Sts. (see related story by Ellie Becker). So as not to compete with this important hearing and with the last episode of M.A.S.H., it was decided to delay our meeting for 23½ hours.

Our guest speakers can have a very special effect on the continuation of Foggy Bottom as a residential neighborhood. They are members of the staff from the Office of Planning headed by Ward-Two Planner, Art Duncan. Their topic of discussion will be a review of the City's Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital and how it will effect Foggy Bottom.

Washington is undergoing a tremendous change. Land use development is responding to this change. As a result, urban neighborhoods like Foggy Bottom-West End have become vulnerable to incompatible commercial development. A Comprehensive City Plan

will state what kind of growth will occur in the city and where it will be allowed to develop. If an area is identified for residential use, it will be much more difficult for commercial intrusions to occur.

Washington does not presently have a Comprehensive Plan. Instead, the D.C. Zoning Commission with its regulations and maps has been used for this purpose. We have seen the ruinous effect of this practice to residentially zoned land. First, not a single zoning violator has been prosecuted in four years! Second, and more importantly, developers routinely apply for and are routinely granted map changes which convert land from residential use to commercial use, on a piecemeal basis.

A Comprehensive Plan can serve to reinforce the present residential character for our neighborhood and aid the Zoning Commission in its future decisions.

There are serious flaws in the proposed Plan. In general the plan is a political document. This means those groups who are most influential and/or vocal will be the best protected. There will be a number of important points the FBA will want in this document.

If you're interested in a little self determination please attend this meeting.

This is truly an eclectic issue of the Foggy Bottom News. Like a Washington winter it hasn't got a central focus or theme and doesn't flow in any one direction. Instead, it is a melange of articles that cover such diverse topics that even the reluctant reader will find something that captures his or her interest or arouses some ire. Our columnists have all succumbed to some form of winter doldrums. Puck hasn't anything to say this month in From the Bottom Up except "I'm bottomed out" (an expression I liked so much, I borrowed it for use in my introduction to Letter from Zimbabwe).

In this Issue

Legal Ease's Dan Haslam is missing in action someplace between the last ANC meeting, the law library and the development at 26th and K Streets N.W. Karen Jaehne Latham, who when not following the beat of a distant drummer is usually verbally beating a distant drummer or beating a distant drum has taken off for the Berlin International Film Festival which she will be covering for National Public Radio. She did, however, leave us with an article entitled Psycho-Scrimmage in which she muses over the macho mystique of football.

Tom Miller who is rapidly becoming known as the neigh-

borhood trash man has more on the condo-trash issue and in another article announces the Ward Two Democratic Party Convention. Mike Haney opens our eyes to Visual Pollution. The man in the black stetson, Steve Levy, has taken time out from his auctioneering exercises to call for donations for the silent auction to be held at the Spring Block Party. Vorda Honnald informs us of the good works of the Woman's Board of the GW hospital. Our own Columbo / Clousseau / Kojak, Bob Alcorn, answers questions regarding the Neighborhood Watch in his column Crime-watch.



Visual Pollution

by Mike Haney

Visual pollution has reared its ugly head in the District of Columbia. Like other parts of the city, Foggy Bottom and the West End have recently experienced an increase of unsightly and illegal commercial signs and portable billboards.

The accompanying photograph of the Exxon Service Station at 26th and Pennsylvania Avenue is a good example of the visual blight spreading throughout the city. D.C. Law 2-18, Title 5A-1 regulates the size, height, and placement of commercial signs and billboards. Unfortunately, the District Government has been lax in its enforcement of this law.

For example, Section 1405.8 of this law entitled "Signs on Public Space" makes it illegal to place or erect any sort of commercial sign upon any "street, avenue, alley, highway, footway, sidewalk, parking or other public space in the District of Columbia. . ."

Despite the clear language of the law, hundreds of large commercial signs and sandwich boards have been placed on sidewalks and other public spaces throughout the District—most within the past year. For example, in Foggy Bottom you can see sidewalk signs all along Pennsylvania Avenue. Besides being ugly and illegal, these signs block the public sidewalks and present a hazard to pedestrians and a real danger to the blind and physically disabled.

We are all pleased to see the general improvement of the commercial sector of Pennsylvania Ave. from the White House to Georgetown. We now have a selection of restaurants and other commercial establishments that were not available five years ago. However, we also have creeping commercial blight spawned by an excess of commercial signs and clutter.

Your help is needed to stop the spread of visual pollution

and sidewalk schlock. Two things are needed: First, call or write Mayor Barry and tell him you are concerned about the proliferation of commercial signs and urge him to enforce the existing law. Second, report violations of the sign law to either Mr. Leslie C. Reid, Chief of Construction Code Enforcement, Department of Housing and Community Development, 614 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001 and/or Ms. Carol Thompson, Acting Director, D.C. Department of Licenses, Investigations and Inspections, 614 H Street, N.W. 20001, phone: 727-6904.

It also wouldn't hurt to send a copy of your letter to Council Member John Wilson's office and follow-up with a phone call. Let's return the sidewalks to people and not signs! If you would like more information about this or other issues affecting the urban landscape, please call me at 338-3117.

D.C. Fed to FBA: "You Are Not Alone"

We in Foggy Bottom and the West End are naturally concerned with the problems of our own neighborhood. If we aren't, who will be? And being preoccupied with the vitality and livability of our area, we can sometimes forget that other D.C. neighborhoods share similar concerns and face similar problems.

This was brought home again to a couple of us on the FBA Board recently when we attended a day-long conference sponsored by the D.C. Federation of Civic Associations, an umbrella organization of local citizen groups with which the FBA is affiliated.

Held at Shaw Community School on Jan. 22, the conference took the form of workshops on a wide range of topics, from land use and planning to crime control, public utilities and historic preservation.

D.C. Council Chairman Dave Clarke was present to lead discussions on how civic associations and the Council can best work together to make our neighborhoods and the city ever more responsive to the interests of all law-abiding residents and visitors.

Dan Haslam and I, appointed by FBA President Rick Churchill to represent our Association at the conference, divided the time participating in as many of the workshops as we could. We came away with the impression that Foggy Bottom and the West End have much to contribute at events of this kind; that other neighborhoods are eager to learn how we are confronting and trying to solve our particular problems, be they in zoning, transportation, public safety or other areas of common concern.

And we found it reassuring, too, to realize anew that the FBA is not fighting its local battles in isolation, that like-minded organizations in other neighborhoods throughout the city are fighting similar, and oftentimes even more daunting, battles of their own.

It's also good, we feel, that the D.C. Federation of Civic Associations continues the important task of helping gather and disseminate this kind of information to constituent groups through such means as the Jan. 22 conference.

—Tom Miller

The Women's Board of The GWU Hospital

by Vorda Honnald

For over 84 years the Women's Board has existed for the purpose of rendering numerous services and monetary support to the Hospital—directly to patients and persons whose lives are touched by the Hospital—and indirectly to the Hospital by providing financial support. Past president of the Board (1980-82) Mrs. David (Thelma) Weaver and numerous other members contribute from 40 to sometimes as much as 80 hours a month to their volunteered responsibilities.

In recent years, the major part of the Board's profits have been allocated to its equipment replacement program and contributed to the hospital for the acquisition of new technical equipment. The past two Board years (ending June 1981 and June 1982) were rewarding ones. Through the guidance of its then president, Mrs. Weaver, and the management of its finance committee the Board funds totaling \$100,000 were donated to the hospital for the purchase of the six new bedside monitors recently installed in the Intensive Care Unit. The Board's current budget provides for the purchase of two more bedside monitors for the ICU sometime in 1983. In addition, modest sums are donated annually to the Social Services Department, the Himmelfarb Health and Sciences Library, and to other hospital-related projects.

Hospital Administrator, Michael Barch, and other prominent members of the Hospital staffs, give strong support and express gratitude to the Women's Board and its valuable contributions. Needless to say, the ladies of the Board are justifiably proud of their achievements since there are few rooms or areas in the hospital that have not benefited in some way from funds provided by the Board's projects. Following the assassination attempt on President Reagan in March 1981, it was gratifying to the ladies to learn from Mr. Barch that funds provided previously by the Board had purchased the monitor used in the care of the President, and the cavitron ultrasonic surgical aspirator used in the care of James S. Brady, White House Press Secretary.

The Women's Board is involved in numerous activities to raise funds for the purchase of such equipment. The Gift Shop is the most visible of these activities. Visible also are the Library Cart and the Shopping Cart. Both are operated as direct services to patients, their families and guests. The Library Cart visits all patient rooms once a week

and makes available current magazines and paperbacks; the latter can be purchased or rented at nominal charge. In addition, all magazines donated to the Library Cart are distributed free to many patients. (If you have good current magazines and care to contribute them to the Library Cart for distribution to patients, or good paperbacks and books for the annual Book Sale, your gifts will be greatly appreciated. Such items can be dropped off at the Gift Shop.)

The Shopping Cart, a huge six-wheeler, usually visits all patient rooms twice a week. It is appropriately stocked with merchandise for the comfort and pleasure of patients, such as edibles, toilet articles, magazines, paperbacks, stationery, cards, bedroom clothing and numerous related items. Volunteers manning these two carts are amply rewarded for their services by the heartfelt words of appreciation received from patients and medical staffs. The Shop is managed and operated by Board members and volunteers but also employs a manager, shop assistant, and several weekend and night personnel. Net profits from the Shop and other Board activities such as the December bazaar, annual book sale, and parlayed cash donations are contributed, on a yearly basis, to the Hospital.

The Gift Shop is located just inside the 23rd Street entrance of The George Washington University Hospital, this attractive Shop carries a wide variety of items including large selections of flower arrangements and plants; magazines, best-seller paperbacks, greeting cards, announcements, and stationery; toilet articles such as lotions, shampoos, colognes and perfumes; candies, nuts, other confections. There is a jewelry cabinet and counters and shelves filled with tasteful gift items for all ages and purposes. The doll and stuffed animal toys and garments and items for infants and tots are delightful. Men's pajamas and robes are tucked away in drawers and must be asked for. The ladies nightgowns and robes are among the Shop's outstanding buys. All merchandise is reasonably priced.

Mrs. William (Laura) Tompkins, current president of the Women's Board, and all Gift Shop personnel invite Foggy Bottom residents to visit the Shop periodically. Its proximity may often make the Shop a real convenience and time-saver. In addition, your patronage will assist the Board in its continued services and support of The GWU Hospital and its patient-care capabilities.

Foggy Bottom News

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

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Crime Watch Bob Alcorn
From the Bottom Up Puck

All announcements, letters, articles, etc., welcome but must be typed **double spaced**. Please include an evening phone number. Send to:

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% West End Library
24th & L Sts., N.W.
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The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

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Dues

Letter to the Editor

Dear Mrs. Cahill-Zelinka,
It was with great pleasure that I read in the recent issue of the Foggy Bottom News about the new playground.

About fifteen years ago, Elizabeth Davis and my late husband, Burton Wilson,

spent many hours and much energy trying to get a playground for the area, unfortunately at that time without success. It is good to know that we now have such a play area.

Enclosed is my check toward your goal for additional equipment.

Sincerely,

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(Mrs. Burton T. Wilson)

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ANC NOTES

OLD BUSINESS

Zoning: Sherry Towers: Commissioner Levy summarized actions to date that have led to the ANC's appeal to the Board of Zoning Adjustment that is scheduled for hearing on 16 February (BZA case #13917). He read a unanimous request from the tenants for the ANC to represent them in the proceedings, and made a motion that the ANC agree to do so. He then moved that the ANC adopt formal testimony to be presented to the BZA, and that Commissioners Levy and Stamm and supporting witnesses be authorized to present the testimony at the hearing.

He also moved that the ANC continue to negotiate with the owners of Sherry Towers in hopes of reaching a satisfactory agreement in the time remaining before the BZA renders a final decision in this case. Maureen Stewart, attorney for the owners, was present and participated in the discussions, and Commissioner Molinelli read a letter from the West End Citizens Association in support of the Sherry Towers tenants.

26th & K: Ellie Becker, chairman of the special joint Foggy Bottom Association/ANC committee on the apartment building proposed to be constructed at 26th & K Streets, presented the committee's report and recommendations. She summarized the committee's actions and negotiations with the developer, Eddie Lenkin, for those who had been unable to attend the joint FBA/ANC information meeting on the project the previous evening.

The ANC then adopted a resolution of its position for the Zoning Commission hearing on the case scheduled for 28 February. The resolution was similar to that adopted by the FBA: it opposes any rezoning to commercial; it supports a Planned Unit Development of approximately 100 apartments in a building designed to be compatible with the style and scale of 26th Street, subject to final agreement with the developer on the total number of parking spaces to be provided, and his agreement to a binding residential covenant to ensure that the building will be used only for bona fide long-term residential use.

2112 F Street: The owners of this vacant lot have asked the BZA to reinstate a variance from the side and rear yard requirements in order for them to construct an apartment building. The BZA had

granted a variance in 1980, but this authorization had lapsed because the owners did not proceed to construct the building in a timely manner. Their attorney, Maureen Stewart, briefly described the proposed building as approximately ten floors, with a medical clinic in the basement and first floor, and the other floors all apartments.

Commissioner Levy noted that the ANC did not oppose the project when BZA approval was requested in 1980, but that the owners had prominently advertised the entire building as a medical clinic for most of 1982 by signs on the site and by ads in the Washington Post as recently as the previous day, January 31, 1983. Commissioner Molinelli also pointed out how the owners had consistently ignored ANC requests to control illegal parking on the vacant lot and to keep the sidewalk clear of deep mud and vegetation, and strongly questioned the owners' credibility. The ANC proceeded to adopt a position which stressed its long-standing policy to foster housing in the neighborhood, but in opposition to this project unless the owners were willing to execute a binding agreement to limit any medical clinic to two floors, and to devote the rest of the building to long-term residential use. The attorney stated the owners' willingness to seriously consider such an agreement. The BZA hearing in the case (#13926) is scheduled for 23 February.

Transportation: Commissioner Stamm announced that Metro has not completely ceased operation of the M-12 shuttlebus between Kennedy Center and Georgetown via the Foggy Bottom Metro Station. It continues to run rush hours only: 7:00A-9:00A and 4:00P-6:00P, Monday through Friday.

Jenny Brake reported that the first interim report of the Whitehurst Freeway task force studies had just been issued. There are still many steps to be taken on this project, and she will continue to represent the ANC on the task force.

Environmental Affairs: Cafe George: Commissioner Levy confirmed that the problem of outdoor trash storage had been corrected, following the ANC's intervention, and that he had been shown that the refrigerated indoor trash storage area was now in regular use.

24th & M Streets Construction Site: Commissioner Stamm reported that the developer had promptly re-

sponded to the ANC's complaint on behalf of residents at 1121 24th Street that construction trucks were blocking the public alley and filling their apartments with noxious diesel fumes. Both the developer and his attorney expressed their sincere interest in minimizing construction disruption to the neighborhood. However, Hugh Hart of the Gibson condominium at 23rd and M Streets reported on a number of continuing serious violations at the site, especially loud construction work taking place well beyond the permitted hours of 7:00A to 7:00P. He stated that he had had very poor response from the Police Department in having the construction regulations enforced, and he asked the ANC's help. The ANC authorized Commissioners Molinelli and Stamm to urge the police to control unauthorized activity at the site (Moved Stamm/Seconded Rosenbaum—adopted 5-0). In addition, the developer's attorney was present, and she pledged that the developer would take whatever steps were necessary to keep problems at the site at an absolute minimum.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Report: The ANC's annual report of its activities in FY 1982 and its recommendations to the D.C. government to alleviate neighborhood problems was reviewed and adopted (Moved Rigdon/Seconded Levy—adopted 5-0).

Economic Development: John Gullet, speaking for himself and other residents in the area of 20th and N Streets (including about a dozen present at the meeting), asked for the ANC's help in opposing the proposed establishment of a "girly joint" on the site of the old Provencal Restaurant on 20th Street. Called Boardroom II, the business is owned by Mr. Lowenstein who operated the Boardroom at Vermont Avenue and L Street for many years. Mr. Lowenstein was present, and protested that his business was highly respectable and was not sexually-oriented under D.C. law. Responding to questions, he agreed that some of his women employees were scantily clad, danced on tables, and accepted tips from appreciative customers, but rejected implications that any of this took place in anything other than a completely refined manner.

(ANC, cont. on p. 8)



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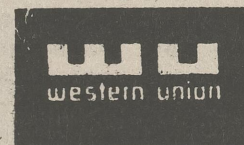
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CRIME WATCH

by Bob Alcorn

I have received a large number of calls regarding various factors of the Neighborhood Watch. I think that now would be a good time to answer questions asked and to talk about some factors that you may not understand.

First of all, the column is written at the first of each calendar month but does not appear in print until the newspaper is published, usually the last week of the month, so that I may talk about something happening the week before when by the time that you read the article, several weeks have passed. I am sorry that some of you are upset by the late announcement of happenings but we are bound by the constraints of time necessary to get the paper out.

We must also check out crimes reported and confirmation may not come until after the newspaper deadline has passed. Therefore, the report may not be in the paper until the next issue. In one instance, a crime that occurred in late November did not appear until the January issue.

That did not mean that we neglected the crime. Indeed, it was reported throughout the Watch system and an attempt was made to press the police department for follow-up information. I spoke to the Watch officers in the locale of one of the robberies and not only did they have the full story but also had worked as a team to get improved lighting, etc. for the area.

Secondly, and in particular

for the resident of 26th Street below K who was a crime victim, I must remind you that when I asked for volunteers, no one came forth to help us out in your block. We had to ask for a person on Queen Anne's Lane to spread herself thin and help us out. Your watcher has been very good about reporting crimes to us and as a direct result of an article devoted to hold ups in that area, we have picked up a few more helpers. Perhaps, if you came to the Foggy Bottom Association meetings and the ANC meetings, both of which are announced in the paper and on lamp posts throughout the area, you could ask your questions and find out just what is happening in your area.

Thirdly, just because a police car or two comes to a location in our area, it is not necessarily because a crime has been committed. Often police are called to quiet down a party, rescue a cat, solve a marital disagreement, etc., in which case no report is made. Therefore our local police do not have a record of anything other than the call. We have long made people aware that we are not interested in marital problems, etc.; therefore, if we encounter such a situation we put a halt to our involvement once we have learned its nature. If no report was taken, then neither the police, chief included, the mayor, or the President would know what went on other than the call was received by the police department.

Now some positive news, our residents are reporting suspicious persons more often. This pleases all of the Watch members and we commend each and every one of you who has called in. One of the suspicious characters you have reported may be the person the police are searching for for another suspected crime or may just be a neighbor. (Not that any suspicious looking persons live in the Bottom.) If he/she is the latter, he or she should be pleased to know that someone is watching out for the neighborhood.

I still get calls regarding handbags and boxes left in the back seats of parked cars, or keys in the ignition, or doors unlocked. I see the same thing. Please take all of your viewable objects from the car and put them in the trunk

'MISSING' leaves false impression of ambassador

by Cyrene Dear

WASHINGTON—There have been some newspaper and magazine articles here recently regarding the lawsuit filed by former Ambassador Nathaniel Davis against Universal City Studios, Inc. which made the motion picture called "MISSING."

My concern in this story is limited to my friendship of long standing with Nathaniel Davis and his wife Elizabeth Creece Davis, both of whom I have known since childhood.

I have read two articles by Ambassador Davis which appeared in Foreign Affairs Magazine, a respected publication dealing with foreign affairs. I am not a foreign service officer nor an authority on ambassadors who serve in the Department of State, but I know that my friends Nathaniel and Elizabeth Davis

have suffered from the accusations against Nathaniel when he was U.S. Ambassador to Chile in 1971-73.

This law suit involves him in the movie, where he is simply called Ambassador, and has left a scar on his life of which he is innocent. The plaintiffs' lawyers say that the book and the movie statements are "false, unfair, inaccurate and defamatory," and that the plaintiff's lawyers have been "held up to public disgrace, scorn and ridicule."

Nathaniel Davis is a professional foreign service officer. He has served in Bulgaria, Guatemala, Washington and Switzerland. Davis has seen the movie "MISSING" twice privately and admits it does have an impact. He is sympathetic with Edmund Horman, the father of Charles, the missing journalist, who was an only son, and the son's wife Joyce, but Davis's feelings are against the movie which blames the United States officials for the missing American when they tried to help him.

The movie implies that the U.S. government was responsible for telling the Chileans to murder Charles Horman. This has bothered Nathaniel personally ever since, but also the implication that in the U.S. foreign service an ambassador who is a professional would go abroad and be in the position of telling the authorities of another country to kill an innocent young American who has committed no crime—"That is a corrosive thing to suggest about public service which is false."

Nathaniel and Elizabeth and their four children have been brought up to be the kind of people who have been chosen to serve the best interests of America abroad. Their consciences and habits could never be a partner to a crime in a foreign country where they served or in any place. The people who see the movie "MISSING" may be influenced by the impression it gives of the ambassador, but I feel certain that it is false and that the lawsuit brought by Nathaniel Davis and his two associates is justified for the suffering to them by the false accusations caused by the death of Charles Horman.

Editor's Note: Ms. Dear, who is a Foggy Bottom Resident, sent me a copy of a column she had written for the Henderson Gleaner (Henderson, Kentucky) and asked that I print at least a portion of that article in the FBN as the Davises are well known in Foggy Bottom.)

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A Psycho-scrimage

by Karen Jaehne Latham

Pigskin fetishism reached a low-point last autumn. Palpable by its absence, the old football looked like it had been passed into another realm. The television sets yawned all weekend, and for a while there, naugahyde was on the verge of replacing pigskin.

That's behind us, at last, and once more, football confounds the uninitiated. I heard a psychologist explaining to a man with glasses (who was taking notes and drinking Campari—undoubtedly a foreigner) why football is a virtual psychogram of American life. "When the Redskins beat the Stealers," he explained, "it is a reflection of the native American triumph over Capitalism." I couldn't wait to hear what he would have to say about the Patriots and the Raiders.

When I came out of the Safeway an hour later, they were still at it, diagnosing the country's social and anti-social diseases in terms of football. It seems that the teams represent two massive blobs of masculinity, tough and padded with the brain encased deep within a protective shell.

They charge, attack and assault one another ferociously over an ovular or elliptically shaped ball, whose bounce is most unpredictable.

This struggle goes on at regular intervals, after face-offs or showdowns, during which one of them calls out numbers in non-numerical sequence, before thrusting the desired

ball through his legs and out the other side. At this point, one of them runs with it, who is called a "quarter-back", in celebration of his resemblance to the eagle on the back of an American quarter—so swift and unswerving!

Part of this explanation was drowned out by the helicopters overhead, but when their voices faded back in, I heard the psych explaining what it's really all about: at half-time, they take a shower all together in celebration of this exercise of male-bonding, while a bevy of half-clad dancers come out twirling batons—that ancient symbol of power and authority. So no matter how much America may appear to be a jock-culture, baton twirlers are where it's at.

"Now, let's go over this again to see what you learned," said the sociological anthropologist to the poor foreigner. "Do you remember what an offensive charge is?"

"Mais oui, monsieur, that's what American Express does to my card. What does that have to do with football?"

"Everything," he continued and I left, knowing that either this guy knew more than I did—or more than I wanted to!

But as I was running away, I heard him explain why it's called "Football." "It's catchy," he said brightly, "imagine someone talking about a 'political pedosphere!'"

Letter from Zimbabwe

(Editor's Note: Ann Marie Welch Morawski, dance critic for the Washington Star and the Baltimore Sun, instructor at the Corcoran, wife of the extraordinary Misha, mother of Adam and Martin, beloved friend of so many of us has "Bottomed Out", kicked up her heels, packed it in and taken off with her family to Zimbabwe. After almost one year of continuing with her career while having to parent her children alone (except for every other weekend) while Misha was working with the Pittsburgh ballet, decided that a bi-continental marriage would be a bit much. Misha has been appointed Director of the Dance Company of Zimbabwe. Ann Marie and the children decided to give up the joys of cramped quarters in Foggy Bottom and go with him to Zimbabwe. I thought all of Anne Marie's friends and admirers would enjoy reading of her first impressions of that country, excerpted from one of her letters to me).

"HARARE... you would not believe how beautiful it is here—perfect climate—sunny and hot part of the day, but no humidity and breezy for sleeping. Flowers are everywhere—bougainvillea cascading down 5-story-high cypress trees, exotic lillies, fuschia, palm trees, mimosa—and the cleanest, sweetest smelling air. I feel like a princess. Relations between the races are cordial, or seem to be. We signed a lease yesterday on a 3-bedroom house, very sunny and open, characteristically Rhodesian, with 2 acres of grounds.

The boys love it here. They spend the whole day outside—running, swimming, asking questions. The ballet let the Polish speaking community know about Misha's arrival, and their hospitality has been wonderful. Last night we had dinner at the home of some Poles who also have children.

The problems here don't really touch us—gas lines temporarily, because Angolans blew up a refinery in Mozambique; some inter-tribal violence in a far western province we've already been warned not to visit. The water is fine and the food doesn't pose any of the problems people mentioned—especially in the city. More after we've settled in...."

A Christmas Story December 25, 1982

by Helen Bryan
Volunteer
Activities Department
Mar Salle Convalescent
Care Center

It is Christmas morning and the seventy-year olds are as excited about Santa as any seven year old. Eric, our very own Jolly Elf, in traditional garb, is shaking his way through the home, trailed by nurses and other attendants, singing carols and bestowing gifts. He moves more like a pied Piper or a Saint's March—followed from station to station by the ambulatory, by those in wheelchairs—sharing the love of Christmas that is born in the heart of most of us.

Five days before Christmas Santa wondered how he would fill his sacks. We needed at least seventy-five additional gifts. On that day I read in *The Washington Post* a very eloquently written story by Ann L. Trebbe about RICHARD VIGUERIE'S VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS. Parenthetical-

ly it was reported that Mr. and Mrs. Viguerie had asked each of their 300 guests to bring a gift for "senior citizens in local nursing homes." Perhaps they would share with my friends at the Mar Salle Center.

On Tuesday—abandoning Victorian horse and carriage—they came by double-decker bus, Mr. Viguerie and twenty or so of his staff, bearing red sacks bulging with the gifts contributed by Mr. Viguerie's Conservative Friends. Stationing themselves at random among the elderly, they led in joyful carol, tempted us with homemade cookies—and left a shining example of the real spirit of Christmas under our tree.

"We heard them exclaim as they drove out of sight, Merry Christmas to All." We are still saying "Thank You."

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A Call for Volunteers for The Spring Fling Auction

by Steve Levy

The Foggy Bottom Association is pleased to announce that we will again conduct an auction as part of our Spring Fling/Block Party celebration. The auction will be conducted by Steve Levy, with the able assistance of Joe Brockenberg (of St. Mary's Court). Steve and Joe need to organize the auction *now* to assure that it will run smoothly, and are calling for volunteers to:

- solicit items for the auction
- aid in typing the auction catalogue and cards on each lot

- store auction lots and/or bring them to the auction site on the morning of the sale
- record bids received in the silent auction & live auction
- supervise auction lots during public inspection
- assist as spotters at the live auction
- serve elsewhere as needed.

If you would have some time (or space) free to help in the auction, please call either Rick Churchill at (429-0587, or 659-0011), or Jenny Brake (965-5154).
(See related article for suggested auction donations.)

Spring Fling/Block Party Auction

by Steve Levy

It is time to begin donating items to the FBA for the auction at the Spring Fling/Block Party. Last year many interesting items included services, such as: an hour of legal advice (Dan Haslam); an hour of weeding (Ellie Becker); lunch for two with John Wilson (Guess who); an hour of coin appraisal/one pocket watch appraisal (Steve Levy); dinner for four at Morella Hansen's; dinner for two at Maria Tyler's; and many other services.

Many useful gifts included a weekend for two at Guest Quarters, a working Atari machine with many cartridges, and several lovely prints.

This year we have already been promised "an evening with..." several different people whom you can invite into your home for dinner and for an evening of conversation on a topic or topics of your choice.

Also donated have been 500

soft drink cans for your own sculpture to add to the aesthetics of Foggy Bottom; dinner at Geoffrey Stamm's, (Geoff is Chairman of our Advisory Neighborhood Commission); an hour of consulting on a home renovation project, a hour of coin appraisal, one detailed verbal appraisal of a pocket watch, and several other interesting items. Please use the following contract in order to record your donation.

THE FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION AUCTION CONTRACT

Contract Co. _____

Donor Name _____

Address _____

ITEM (NOTE: Please provide as complete a description as possible. This will be summarized in the auction catalog, and the Foggy Bottom News if space permits): _____

Estimated retail value if new: _____

Retail value in present condition: _____

Does the item need to be picked up? No _____ Yes _____

OPTIONAL: If I am providing a service (e.g., an hour of weeding), I agree to more than one unit of this service being auctioned off if the amount received by the FBA exceeds \$ _____

Yes _____ No _____ maximum number of units _____

OPTIONAL: I recognize that there is no minimum bid required in the auction,* and wish to bid \$ _____ myself for the item (or first unit of service) being donated.

Signature of donor _____ Date _____

Please return this contract as soon as possible, but no later than April 2, 1983 to:

Steve Levy

Foggy Bottom Coin and Watch Exchange

615 22nd St. N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20037

A copy of the contract will be returned to you.

Thank you.

*A minimum bid can be arranged on special items. Please call the auctioneer, Steve Levy, on 333-7635 (between 5 and 9 PM)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ward 2 Democrats to Convene

by Tom Miller

Democratic Party members living in D.C. Ward 2, which includes Foggy Bottom and the West End, will meet in convention Saturday, Mar. 19, at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library to form a ward-wide organization.

Ward 2, one of the District's most diverse, is also one of only two wards in the city still lacking a Democratic Party structure.

It is hoped Foggy Bottom and West End precincts will be represented by a large group at the convention. All registered Democrats in the neighborhood are encouraged and urged to attend.

Members of a steering committee planning the event point out, however, that to vote at the convention, those attending must be able to prove Democratic affiliation and residence in Ward 2. To verify these requirements, the registration desk will have a copy of the most recent Ward 2 election list issued by the Board of Elections and Ethics. Persons whose names don't appear will still be able to attend and vote provided they can produce an official voter registration card showing Ward 2 residence and Democratic Party membership.

Registration at the Mar. 19 convention will begin at 10:30 a.m., with the formal opening scheduled for 11. The day's events will end by 4:30.

Draft copies of a constitution to be voted on at the convention are available from D.C. Councilmember John Wilson's office in the District Building, phone 724-8058.

The Martin Luther King Memorial Library is at 901 G St., N.W., near Gallery Place Metrorail station. The convention will take place in room A-5.

For further information call Doll Gordon, steering committee chair, at 783-3290; Cynthia Bryant, outreach coordinator, 727-2314; or Linda Greenan, corresponding secretary, 466-3568.

The United Church 150 Years

by H. Eberhard Koepp

On January 16, 1983 at 11:00 a.m., the United Church in Washington, D.C. at the corner of 20th and G St. commemorated in a special German-English service its founding 150 years ago. The history of this church reflects in many respects the history of the Protestant denominations, of the city of Washington and even of the United States. Over so many decades and despite a substantially changed external environment it has maintained its vitality and remained a meeting place.

When in 1833 German immigrants who had found a new home in the Foggy Bottom of Washington, D.C., founded their church, they deliberately gave it the name "Concordia"

(harmony). They did not consider themselves as Lutherans or Reformed but wanted to build a bridge between these two Protestant denominations. This basic attitude was reaffirmed in the most recent history of the church. In 1975 the Concordia Church, by now a part of the United Church of Christ, merged with the Union Methodist Church which was very close by on 20th Street. This ecumenical venture gave the activities of the congregation a new impetus.

Concordia—Unity—meeting of people, have in many ways been characteristic of this church. Still today the tradition of the founders of the Concordia church lives on:

Every first and third Sunday of the month at 9:30 a.m. there is a service in German (besides the English services at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday). Beside the German speaking members of the congregation and many regular visitors from the city, people who have a special relationship to the German language often attend this service, especially students.

Meeting students is in general a special concern of the "United Church" which results quite naturally from its closeness to the George Washington University campus. Moreover, the membership of the church reflects its proximity to international organizations such as the World Bank and the Monetary Fund.

The small, old church at the corner of 20th and G Street has proved that it is possible to stay alive even at a time when many people have moved from the inner city to the suburbs and city-centers are being taken over by office and commercial buildings. In this respect it is worth mentioning another way in which the United Church reaches out to serve the community: The active support through money and

volunteers of a permanent feeding program for homeless women at 10th and G St. and the regular distribution of food to poor people from the United Church building itself.

Lenten Organ Recitals

The following well-known organists will participate in a Lenten Organ recital series at the Western Presbyterian Church, 1906 H Street N.W. Wednesdays at 12:15 PM:

February 23, David J. Wilson, Grace Episcopal Church, Silver Spring, Md.

March 2, Thomas Kingston, Olivet Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Va.

March 9, J. Franklin Clark, Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, McLean, Va.

March 16, Richard Jarvis, Pohick Episcopal Church, Lorton, Va.

March 23, Robert I. Jones, Berwyn United Presbyterian Church, Berwyn Hgts., Md.

March 30, Richard Thibadeau, Walker Chapel United Methodist Church, Arlington, Va.

Placido Domingo to Perform at Opera House Benefit

World-renowned tenor Placido Domingo will appear in concert with conductor Julius Rudel in the Kennedy Center's Opera House at 8 p.m. Monday, March 7, in a special benefit to raise funds for much-needed renovations and improvements in the Opera House.

The benefit marks Domingo's first concert appearance in Washington since 1972, and

the program with full orchestra and chorus will reflect the wide variety and stylistic diversity of Domingo's art, ranging from favorite arias from Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Verdi's *La Forza del destino*, Puccini's *Tosca*, Johann Strauss' *The Gypsy Baron* and from other operas by Mozart, Massenet and Offenbach to excerpts from Spanish Zarzuela and songs from American musicals.

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Condo, Co-op Trash Collection: An Update

by Tom Miller

Shortly after copy deadline for the January FBN, which contained an article on efforts under way to have the city be responsible for trash collection from condominiums and cooperatives, just as it is from single-family houses, word was received that a bill to that effect had been reintroduced in the D.C. Council.

Titled the "Condominium and Cooperative Trash Collection Act of 1983" (Bill 5-36), it replaces a similar bill that failed final passage before the legislative calendar ran out last year.

The fact it was reintroduced so early in the new session is an indication it remains a high-priority matter. Noteworthy too is that our own Ward 2 Councilmember, John Wilson, is a cosponsor.

A significant difference in the wording of this year's bill is that "the District . . . shall provide the same or comparable trash-collection services to . . . condominium and cooperative housing units as are provided residents of single-family housing . . ." (emphasis ad-

ded). This should avoid a repeat of last year's time-consuming dialog over what the "same" services entail.

The new bill has been referred to the Council's Committee on Transportation and Environmental Affairs. We hear that since an extensive public hearing was held on the similar bill last year, no hearing is scheduled this time around. Rather, the committee will coordinate closely with Mayor Barry in deciding how this issue of taxpayer equity will be resolved, whether by 1) having city trucks and personnel handle all homeowner trash pickups, or 2) having condos and co-ops continue contracting with private haulers, with owners eligible then for a property-tax credit, or even 3) discontinuing "free" trash collection altogether in favor of a system of user fees to be paid by all property owners for the service.

For further information, or to receive a copy of the draft legislation, call Councilmember Wilson's office at 724-8058.

(ANC, cont from p. 3)

The ANC agreed with residents that the Boardroom II's style of business, however defined, did not meet generally acceptable community standards for a business to be located adjacent to residences, and it adopted a strong resolution in opposition to granting any liquor or other license necessary to operate the business at that location (Moved Rigdon/Seconded Molinelli—adopted 5-0).

The ANC Chairman, then appointed the following standing committee chairmen for the year: Environmental—Jimmy Molinelli; Housing and Neighborhood Development—Ralph Rosenbaum; Human Services—Tom Miller; Transportation—Maria Tyler; Zoning—Steve Levy. On Commissioner Levy's motion, the ANC appointed its Chairman to serve as ex-officio vice-chairman of all committees to ensure timely committee action on matters in the absence of the committee chairman.

Next Regular Meeting: 1 March at St. Paul's Church at 7:30P. This will be a joint public forum meeting with the Foggy Bottom Association to meet with staff from the D.C.

Office of Planning and Development to discuss the draft Comprehensive Plan for the District of Columbia. An additional meeting will be held later in March to conduct other regular ANC business.

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D.C. No-fault Auto Insurance

by Henrietta Y. Zoltrow

The D.C. Council passed a **LAW, REQUIRING EVERYONE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO HAVE LIABILITY INSURANCE BY "APRIL 1st."** No-fault insurance, basically, provides you and your passengers with personal injury protection benefits, whenever you are in a car accident. It will NOT COVER damage to your car.

The Department of Transportation has listed a line of penalties for not complying with this new law; such as, no new registration for cars, no renewal of registration, driver's license revoked, fines, and the "boot" on your car. The new No-Fault plan is most comprehensive. Call your Insurance Broker for additional information. Your present auto insurance policy will be changed to meet the new requirements. If you do not have an Insurance Broker, you can call the Consumer "HOT-LINE" phone, 347-4100, Monday thru Friday 9:am thru 4:p.m.

AN ADULT REMEMBERS

by Deborah Gerhard

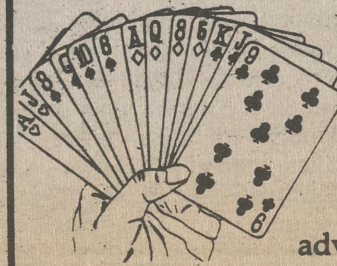
A park is a splendid thing to have. When one is a child one can explore the whole world in a park. As a child in Columbus I used to take a stick, which represented a gun, and go shooting trees in the park. We had some playground equipment which some good people had donated, but it wasn't nearly as much fun as climbing the one or two shabby trees, going exploring for treasures under the bushes, playing softball on the well worn turf, or discovering new refuges and staging ambushes in the brambles.

Within a park one can find prairies and forests, deserts and caverns, places adults never find. A park seems to grow with a child, always remaining as new and undiscovered as it was the day before, seeming to

be endless and inexhaustible. It was a wonderful place where we could run and make noise and have a good time together safely. I hope the children of Foggy Bottom enjoy their park as much as I did mine.

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